GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:304
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2007
EXPORT OF TEA
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash;Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of tea export has increased considerably during the year 2006 particularly between April and October, 2006 while the earnings are expected to be lower;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to boost the export of tea, and

(c) the countries identified for the export of tea and the success achieved thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.304 FOR ANSWER ON 20TH MARCH, 2007 REGARDING `EXPORT OF TEA`

(a) & (b) : Yes Sir. The export of tea has increased by 7.15 million kgs during April- October, 2006 as compared to the corresponding period of last year. However, during this period the export earnings have marginally declined. The details of tea exports are given below:

Period / Year	Quantity (Million Kgs)	Value (Rs.Crores)
April to October,2006#	114.27	1048.50
April to October,2005	107.12	1052.66
Inc.(+) or (-) in 2006 over2005	(+) 7.15	(-) 4.16

#Provisional and subject to revision

However, the tea exports have improved if the period is taken from April to December, 2006, both in quantity and value terms, as compared to the corresponding period of last year as may be seen from the figures given below:

Period / Year	Quantity (Million Kgs)	Value (Rs.Crores)
April to December,2006	158.90	1453.63
April to December,2005	151.72	1416.24

Government of India through Tea Board has been taking various steps to boost export of tea which include conducting promotional activities in the foreign markets, participation in international fairs/exhibitions, media publicity, buyer-seller meets, exchange of tea delegations between India and tea importing countries, lending promotional support to Indian tea exporters in their marketing efforts, etc. India has been able to maintain its share in global tea exports.

Tea Board is also implementing a scheme for providing incentive for production of orthodox tea for ensuring the availability of export quality orthodox tea in adequate quantity. The Government is also assisting the tea exporters towards meeting the additional transport and handling charges incurred for tea exported through Inland Container Depot (ICD) Amingaon in Assam.

(c): About 20 countries have been identified as focus markets for exports for 2002-2007. The export performance of Indian tea has improved in countries such as Pakistan, Arab Republic of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, USA, Iran, Syria, Japan, Australia, South Africa etc. during 2006 over 2002.